

What is Claimed is:

1. A magnetic recording medium comprising:
a magnetic disk with embedded data patterns that include a pattern corresponding to contents management information.
2. A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pattern corresponding to contents management information is provided on every track.
3. A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic disk comprises a nonmagnetic substrate having a portion with pits formed on the surface thereof, and a magnetic layer formed over the surface of the substrate, each of the data pattern being embedded by forming a pattern of the pits on a nonmagnetic substrate and selectively magnetizing the magnetic layer at the pattern of the pits.
4. A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the contents management information is copy management information for managing copying of contents.
5. A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the contents management information is period management information for managing utilization period of contents.
6. A storage type magnetic recording apparatus comprising a magnetic recording medium defined by claim 4, wherein the magnetic recording medium stores the contents obtained through broadcasting or communication on a track having the copy management information corresponding to a copying form that is permitted by a distributor of the contents or for a user of the contents.
7. A storage type magnetic recording apparatus according to claim 6, further including means for encrypting output of the contents after confirming that a copying form is permitted by a definition of the copy management information on the track that stores the contents to be used.

8. A storage type magnetic recording apparatus comprising a magnetic recording medium defined by claim 5, wherein the magnetic recording medium stores the contents obtained through broadcasting or communication on a track having the period management information corresponding to a utilization period that is permitted by a distributor of the contents or for the user of the contents.

9. A storage type magnetic recording apparatus according to claim 8, further including means for decrypting the contents after confirming that a utilization time is within a utilization period permitted by a definition of the period management information on the track that stores the contents to be used.

10. A method of controlling use of encrypted information contents comprising the steps of:
providing a magnetic disk with embedded data patterns that include a pattern corresponding to one of copy management information for managing copying of contents and period management information for managing utilization period of contents; and
receiving and storing the encrypted information contents obtained through broadcasting or communication on a track having the copy or period management information corresponding to a copying form or a utilization period that is permitted by a distributor or permitted for user of the contents.

11. A method according to claim 10, further including the step of encrypting output of the contents after confirming that a copying form is permitted by a definition of the copy management information on the track that stores the contents to be used.

12. A method according to claim 10, further including the step of decrypting the contents after confirming that the utilization time is within a utilization period permitted by a definition of the period management information on the track that stores the contents to be used.